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THERE IS A GEOGRAPHY LESSON IN HIS FACE

Life is hard and Indian children have little time to play in the high altitudes of Ecuador, hence the stern mien of this son of the Andes tablelands. (See Bulletin No. 3).

HOW TEACHERS MAY OBTAIN THE BULLETINS

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New Nicaraguan Railway Near Proposed Canal Route

WITH the opening last month of a 17-mile railroad between San Jorge, on Lake Nicaragua, and San Juan del Sur, on the Pacific Ocean, Nicaragua now has a second rail outlet to the west for coffee, cattle, sugar, and other products raised in its mountainous interior.

The new line pierces the Continental Divide at one of its lowest points and cuts diagonally across the route of the proposed Nicaraguan Canal. At its narrowest point this strip of land between Lake Nicaragua and the Pacific is about 14 miles wide. The railway parallels the route of a stagecoach line that in 1849 carried hundreds of prospectors to the California gold rush.

Nicaragua Largest of Central American Republics

Nicaragua also has come into world news lately with the gradual withdrawal of forces of American marines, who have been maintaining law and order in the former revolution-torn nation.

Nicaragua is the largest of the Central American republics and many acclaim it the most beautiful. It has vast forests of precious woods, untold resources of valuable minerals and soil so fertile that it has been said, "If you tickle the ground with a hoe it smiles back with a yam."

The country has about the same area as New York State and its total population is only a little larger than that of Pittsburgh, Pa. It has two mountain ridges which nearly enclose the "Great Lakes of Central America," Lakes Nicaragua and Managua. There is also a railway line connecting its three chief cities—Managua, the capital, León and Granada—with the Pacific port of Corinto.

A glance at a Central America map tells the story of Nicaragua's backwardness in bygone years. Costa Rica, to the south, and Honduras, to the north, are accessible from the Atlantic Ocean; all of Nicaragua's important cities are near the Pacific, although they stand on the long Atlantic watershed. At the foot of the mountains lie her lakes, but she presents to the Caribbean a very unprepossessing "back yard," with the world's worst real estate designation, the Mosquito Coast.

To-day, with Los Angeles, San Francisco and Seattle to tap her markets, Nicaragua's Pacific frontage is a blessing. But yesterday, when Atlantic ports were doing the world's shipping, she was severely handicapped.

Mosquito Coast Named for Indians

Curiously, too, her Mosquito Coast was appropriately named by error. The appellation was not intended for the insect, which abounds there, but is a corruption of the name of the 6,000 Indians, the Misskitos, whose descendants make up most of the population of the region.

The country's northernmost Caribbean headland, Cape Gracias á Dios, is a headline of geography. Columbus explored the Central American coast on his last voyage and, cruising east from Cape Honduras, was compelled to take shelter from a storm at a point where the coast abruptly turns to the south. He named the cape "Thanks to God" and took possession of the country for Spain.

That was in 1502. A century before the *Mayflower* touched at Plymouth Rock, the Spaniards were established along the lake region in far western Nicaragua, despite unwelcome volcanic outbursts. The most sensational single eruption, however, occurred within a century from our day—when Coseguina blew off its head in 1835. For days a black pall obscured the sun, dust blanketed the fields and forests, animals died by the thousands from thirst and hunger.

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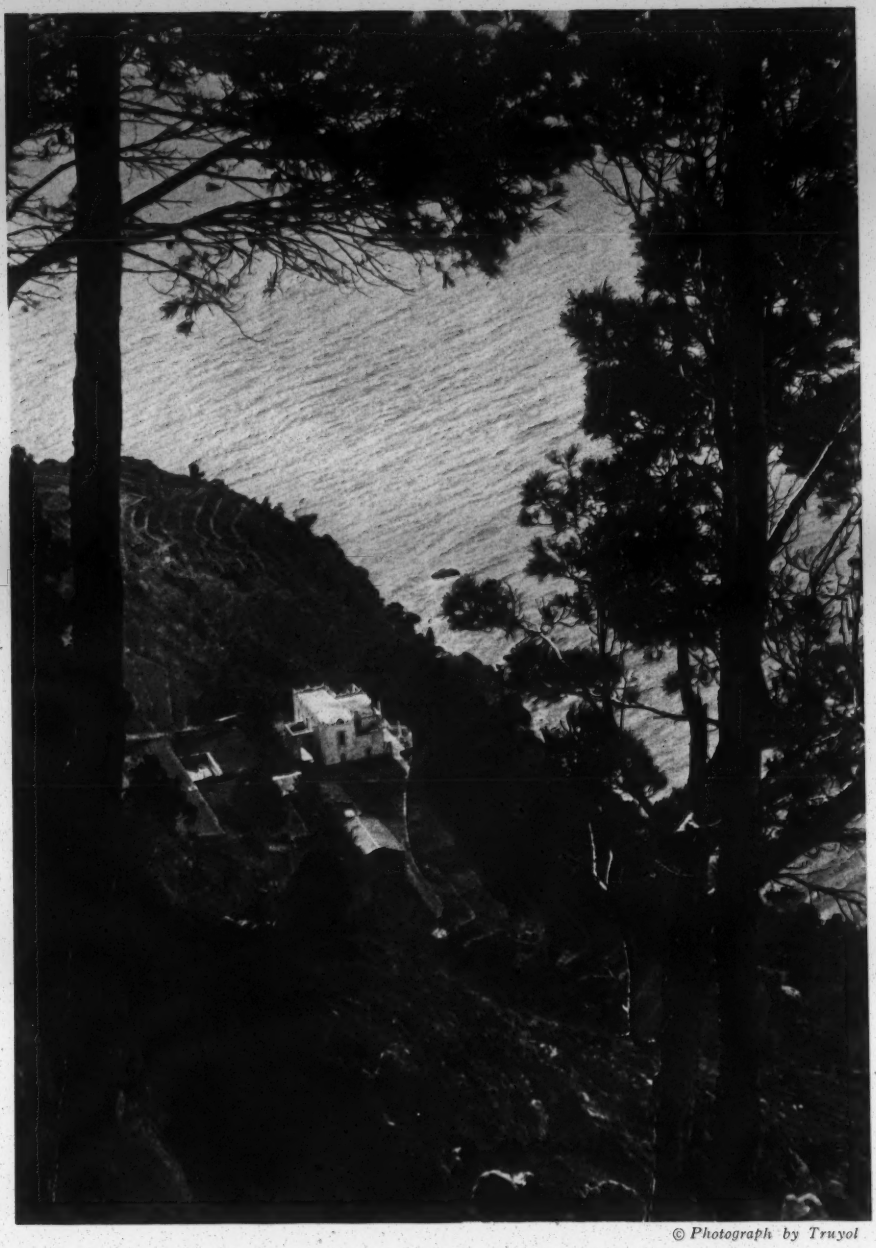

© *Photograph by Truyol*

A VISTA THAT REVEALS WHY MALLORCA IS BELOVED OF ARTISTS

Castle Miramar, once the site of a famous school and monastery, presents a perfect picture with its terraced hillsides, deep blue sea, and enfolding pines and gardens (See Bulletin No. 5).

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The Turk in Search of a Surname

TO US, who have two or more names from birth, it seems strange that most of the people of Turkey are known, as were the ancient Greeks, by only one name. Sometimes a hundred or more Husseins, Saids or Fatimas dwell in a town, with no family names to distinguish one from the other.

Recently the Turkish Minister of Interior drafted a law requiring every Turk to choose a second or surname—any name as long as it be 100 per cent Turkish.

New Turkey Now Nine Years Old

In October New Turkey celebrated its ninth birthday anniversary at Ankara (Angora), the capital on the Asia Minor plateau which superseded intrigue-infested Istanbul (Constantinople), long the capital of the old régime. After nine years of strenuous reforms, the Turkish Republic, because of world-wide depression, has a breathing spell in which to take stock.

Great strides have been made in developing nationalism among the mixture of peoples who are combined under the government of the Ghazi (the Conqueror). The first great step was the freeing of the country of its enemies, a military operation through which the Ghazi, Mustapha Kemal Pasha, gained also political control. Overthrow of the Ottoman dynasty and the Caliphate, leading to democratic forms of government, and a separation of religion from government, were other important steps.

The country is wide, the population scanty, the state of education and literacy low, and communications inadequate. These factors have added to a native inertia against which Turkey's leaders have labored with striking results.

The fez was abolished in order to prepare the Turk, through Western dress, to ally himself with Western thought. The visor of the cap, which became the popular head covering, could be reversed so that the forehead could touch the floor in prayer. The woman's veil was not abolished, but those who abandoned it were favored. At the opening of a new railway line in the heart of Anatolia, a few years ago, only unveiled women were admitted to the favored positions.

Another milestone was the adoption of the Latin alphabet. The old Arabic alphabet was closely related in thought with the Koran. With the advent of "New Turkish," the Turkish Republic moved closer to all nations using the Latin alphabet, and severed strong religious bonds. Not only had Turkey's alphabet been that of the Arabs and Persians, but many of the words were of foreign origin. A strong movement is under way to employ Turkish words and free the language of foreign vocabulary, but at the same time the study of foreign languages, chiefly French and English, is being pushed.

The Ghazi, who entered into the campaign for New Turkish through many informal personal contacts and direct personal encouragement, has recently been directing a study of Turkish history. Under his personal direction the Turkish History Research Commission has compiled a four-volume World History in which Turkey has a larger place than ever before. This history, written from the Turkish viewpoint, is to be taught in the schools.

Ankara, the Wonder Capital

Ankara (formerly known to the West as "Angora") has become a wonder capital. Mushroom speed has been combined with careful planning and a worthy capital is rapidly taking shape in the heart of the arid Anatolian plateau. Free from the intrigues so familiar in the history of Constantinople, Ankara has gathered to itself the loyalty of the Anatolian peasant, between whom and Europe the Bosporus loomed as wide as a sea.

Lack of funds is slowing up the program of railway and road building. For centuries, a great trade route by way of Trabzon (Trebizond) and Erzurum reached from Persia to the Black Sea. Commerce along that historic highway had declined, but through an improvement in the roadbed, commerce is again being lured back.

The Turk formerly was averse to trade or commerce and many professions were in the hands of foreign residents. But a few trades and professions are now restricted to Turks, and from barber and waiter to tailor and stock broker, the Turk is being encouraged to look to his own people for aid. In an American mission school, training in domestic science is winning Turkish sympathy; and the demand for new tempos in the Turkish dance of life is met by courses in Western, as well as Turkish, music in the University of Istanbul.

The state has taken over many industries to train the people in new pursuits. The Ghazi strove personally in the building of the new spa and amusement resort at Yalova, near Istanbul; and his farm, near Ankara, has stimulated widespread interest in better crops and farm animals. Few national leaders have as wide a variety of interests as this native of

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At the foot of Mount Masaya is a lake of that name, and near the lake is the little town of Masaya. Were it not so remote one might suspect the writer of a once popular American song had stolen the cry of the women fruit venders who drone:

"I have oranges, papayas, jocotes,
Melons of water, of gold, and zapotes,
Will you buy?"

But Nicaragua also has bananas—she exports between a million and two million dollars' worth yearly. Only one other crop nets her more, and that is coffee.

Note: For an account of the recent survey of the Nicaraguan Canal route and interesting sidelights of Nicaraguan life see "An Army Engineer Explores Nicaragua," *National Geographic Magazine*, May, 1932. See also "Flying the World's Longest Air-Mail Route," March, 1930; "Buenos Aires to Washington by Horse," February, 1929; "To Bogotá and Back by Air," May, 1928; "Nicaragua, Largest of the Central American Republics," March, 1927; "Shattered Capitals of Central America," September, 1919; and "The Countries of the Caribbean," February, 1913.

Bulletin No. 1, January 9, 1933.

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A NEW MAP OF NICARAGUA, SHOWING RAILWAYS AND THE CANAL ROUTE

The United States has a 99-year lease giving it the right to construct a canal across Nicaragua. The proposed waterway (shown by a double line on map), whose estimated cost is $722,000,000, would employ rivers and Lake Nicaragua for 125 of its 177 miles. This route would be 20 feet higher above sea level than that at Panama, but the crossing of the Continental Divide would require less digging than did the Panama Canal.

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Quito, a City on the Equator with a Springlike Climate

MODERN motor roads are branching out in all directions from Quito, Ecuador's unique mountain-girt capital, according to recent reports from the smallest of South American republics.

Scores of motor cars and buses, most of them of American make, are opening up the hinterland of Ecuador to travel and trade, although the native Indians, who make up almost two-thirds of Ecuador's population, still sit down in the middle of the road when they meet to chat, and refuse to move for traffic, motor or otherwise.

Nearly Two Miles above Sea Level

Quito's suburbs nearly touch the Equator but its 100,000 inhabitants enjoy perpetual springtime. The city nestles in a bowl-shaped depression nearly two miles high among the Andean peaks. Snow-capped mountains are visible from the streets.

Before the completion of the Quito-Guayaquil railroad, connecting the capital with Ecuador's principal gateway and port, Quito was isolated. The few travelers that visited the city trekked for two weeks over difficult trails to reach Quito. Now, by rail, they may alight at the Quito depot the evening of the second day out of Guayaquil. The night is spent at a hotel in Riobamba, a picturesque Andean town near the base of Mt. Chimborazo, Ecuador's loftiest mountain peak. Those in a hurry may take a bus which will bring them into Quito late in the same day on which they left Guayaquil.

Shop windows of Quito reveal what the freight car has done for the city. They might have been lifted from Fifth Avenue and set down in the streets of the capital. Behind large plate glass windows are displayed American radios, bolts of English cloth, French perfumery and cosmetics, and chinaware from Germany.

At the curb purr motors of smart, red, green and yellow automobiles from Detroit, that have just discharged wealthy Quitans dressed in the latest fashions from New York, London and Paris.

But Quito retains remnants even of pre-Spanish days. The smart motor cars must dodge straggling, dust-covered donkeys and llamas with cargoes of lumber, bags of cacao beans and vegetables, and bundles of Panama hats lashed to their backs. If the traveler knows his Ecuador Indians, he can identify their origin by the cut of the merchants' orange ponchos and their glossy black hair.

Ten Dollar Panama Hats Are Popular Headgear

Many Indians make Quito their permanent residence; many come and go from the rural districts with the Quito sun. In the market place the bright shawls and ponchos of the natives add color to the piles of fruit and vegetables, home-made dolls and dyed cloth. Some of the bronze-skinned visitors, particularly those who specialize in selling blankets, prefer the streets to dispose of their merchandise. Nearly all of them wear Panama hats because Ecuador is the home of "Panama" hats.

In nearly three centuries that the Spanish ruled Ecuador they saturated the capital city with their customs. The principal square, Plaza Mayor, is laid out in Spanish style with a Spanish government building facing it. Here and there, throughout the city, ornate Spanish churches rise above the roof tops. The nar-

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Saloniki, to whom Anatolia has become home. In city and town the life of the Turks often centers about the Turk Odjak, or "People's Hearth," a cultural center and social club in which the principles of the government are taught and nationalism fostered.

New schools dot the land from end to end; and there are enough local normal schools so that prospective teachers will not be won away from the hard life of the bleak plateau by the blandishments of the few cities, in which Turkey-made "talkies" are now being successfully shown.

The United States occupies a peculiar place among Turkey's chief customers, since we spend three times as much for Turkish tobacco, figs and mohair as Turkey spends for American products. New industries are being fostered in the Republic and the visitor with a taste for foreign foods is finding life harder or more expensive. Turkish foods, candies, tinned preserves and even sugar and chocolate are supplanting world-famous brands. There is a state monopoly on spirits as well as on tobacco.

Turkey is now making rubber galoshes and tennis shoes, woolen and knitted goods and cheap hosiery. The textile industry is of special concern but the change to Turkish manufacture may affect Japan more than it does Europe, most of the cheaper grades of cotton cloth coming from Nippon.

Note: For additional references and photographs see: "Looking in on New Turkey," *National Geographic Magazine*, April, 1932; "Summer Holidays on the Bosporus," October, 1929; "Turkey Goes to School," January, 1929; "Seeing 3,000 Years of History in Four Hours," December, 1928; "Kizilbash Clans of Kurdistan," October, 1928; "Skirting the Shores of Sunrise," December, 1926; "History's Greatest Trek," November, 1925; "East of Constantinople (Istanbul)," May, 1923; and "Constantinople (Istanbul) To-day," June, 1922.

Bulletin No. 2, January 9, 1933.

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A LETTER WRITER MADE ILLITERATE OVERNIGHT

The change from Arabic script to Latin characters in Turkey hit these craftsmen harder than it did the peasantry, four-fifths of whom never could read or write. But this old man, studying hard, is bravely stepping in line with the program of the New Turkish Republic. On the upper step before him is an alphabet chart in New Turkish; below are the engraving tools and seals which he once used to make intricate characters in the old alphabet.

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"Pearl" Buttons from Mississippi Mud Banks

SCIENCE is saving the mussel, or fresh-water clam. Reports from the upper Mississippi Valley indicate that this placid mollusk, whose shell is the chief source of "pearl" buttons, is increasing in numbers, thus checking fears that stream pollution had marked its doom.

"Pearl" buttons bring to mind palm-fringed lagoons in the Tropics, with swarthy natives diving into shark-infested waters for precious "mother-of-pearl" shells. But unromantic buyers of buttons look to the mud banks of American inland waters for three-quarters of America's "pearl" button needs.

Arkansas and Illinois Leading Producers

Arkansas, Illinois, Tennessee, Indiana, Michigan, and Iowa, in the order named, are the most important breeding grounds of the mussel, or fresh-water clam. The mussel also can be found in other regions, principally in Texas, but nowhere is it as numerous as in the Mississippi River and its far-flung tributaries.

More than 15,433,000 pounds of "pearl" buttons were made from fresh-water mussels in 1930, whereas marine shells, practically all of which were imported from Australia and the Philippines, produced only 4,500,000 pounds of buttons. Fresh-water shell buttons sold for $4,785,000, whereas a little over a third their weight in imported shells were valued at $4,000,000 when made into buttons.

Saving the fresh-water mussel required a roundabout approach. The mussel has an unusual method of hatching its young. First, the native fish of the Mississippi basin had to be saved, because, at one stage in its growth, the infant mussel must hitch-hike to the gills of any fish that happens to swim by, attaching itself with tiny hooks. In this position it becomes overgrown by skin or mucous membrane of the fish, riding along for about ten weeks, and then dropping to the muddy bottom of the river to begin its normal life as a mussel.

Requires Five Years To Grow Up

Fish rescue stations established by the Bureau of Fisheries along the Mississippi River send out men to scoop up fish stranded by receding flood waters in pools which would otherwise dry up. One fish may carry as many as 2,500 tiny mussels. In one year some 300,000,000 fresh-water mussels were thus "restored to circulation." The mussel requires about five years to grow to a good commercial size.

Various gathering methods have been tried by clamming crews, but the most simple and efficient is that using the so-called "crowfoot" equipment, which consists of a section of gas pipe about 14 feet long, dragged from a flat-bottomed rowboat. From the gas pipe trail short pieces of heavy string, to which are attached unbarbed hooks of four prongs. Fresh-water mussels usually lie partly buried in the sandy bottom with their valves slightly open. But the shells close with a viselike grip when disturbed. When the strings or hooks pass over the mussels the shells snap shut on them, and remain fast until the gas pipe bar is drawn up into the boat.

The most satisfactory motive power for the slow towing needed in the fresh-water clamming is an appliance known as a "mule." This underwater sail, fastened by hinges to the stern of the boat, is dropped overboard about two feet below the boat's bottom. It is made of canvas nailed on a wooden frame. Catching the

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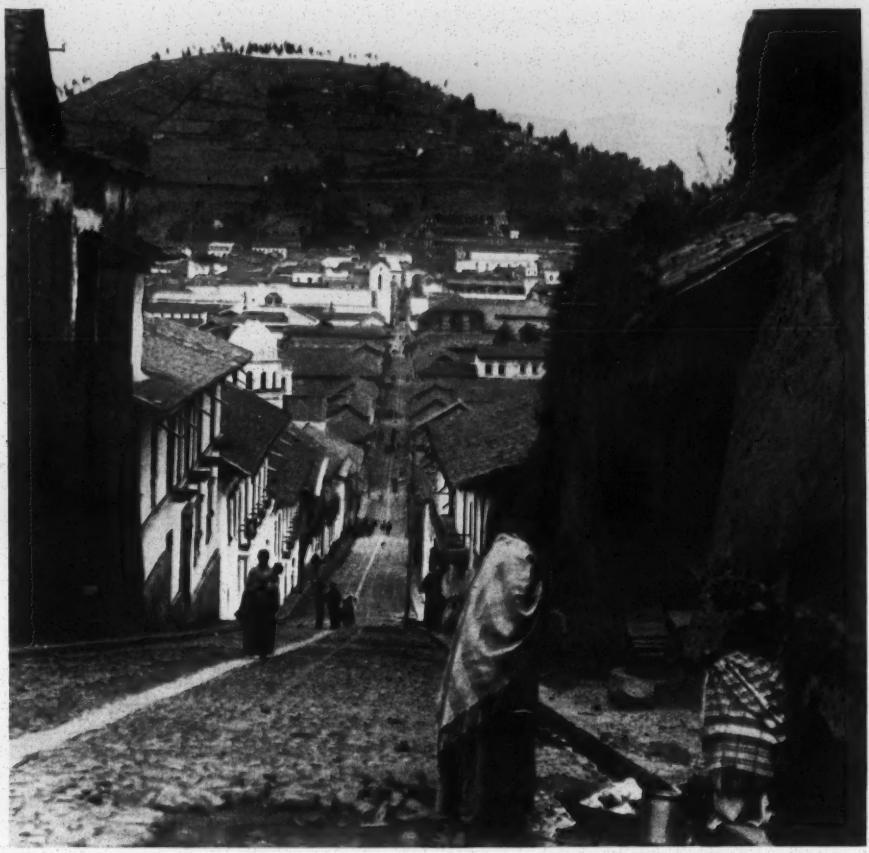
row cobbled streets flanked by white, red-roofed houses, with balconied upper stories, recall streets of cities in Spain.

Many of these Spanish-appearing houses are occupied by pure-blooded Spanish families. Frequently, however, a sort of native variety shop occupies the first floor, where sacks of grain and vegetables, reels of rope and piles of blankets block the doorway, while the sides and tops of the openings are ornamented with clusters of rat traps, tin cups and cheap trinkets, donkey belly bands, and woven leather belts.

Quito was the capital of the Kingdom of the Quitus Indians when Pizarro's men took the city in 1534. Quito remained the capital of Ecuador when the Spaniards relinquished their hold on the country in 1822.

Note: See also "Among the Highlands of the Ecuador Republic," and "Volcanoes of Ecuador," *National Geographic Magazine*, January, 1929; and "Trail and Jungle in Ecuador," October, 1921. The following also contain references to Ecuador: "Flying the World's Longest Air-Mail Route," March, 1930; and "Buenos Aires to Washington by Horse," February, 1929. For a recent account of explorations among Indian ruins of Andean highlands see: "Air Adventures in Peru," January, 1933.

Bulletin No. 3, January 9, 1933.



© *Photograph by Richard B. Hoit*

NOT EVEN PITTSBURGH HAS STEEPER STREETS THAN QUITO

Ecuador's capital, nearly two miles above sea level, is one of the most picturesque cities in the world. Although the Equator passes only a few miles north of the city, its altitude gives it a refreshing, springlike climate throughout the year. Day and night are of equal length and darkness falls promptly at 6 P. M. The flat stones in the center of the street are runways for Indian burden bearers. The principal thoroughfares of Quito to-day are smoothly paved.

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Balearic Islands, a New Mecca for Tourists and Artists

WHILE many resorts report a falling off of tourist trade the Balearic Islands, three Spanish sisters of the Mediterranean, entertained more than 10,000 American and English visitors last year, and are making extensive plans for a bigger influx this year.

A French company expects to develop Mallorca, the principal island, into a "New Riviera." Many American artists and writers, attracted by cheap prices and beautiful scenery, have taken up winter quarters on the Island of Ibiza. Palma, the capital of the group, boasts one of the few American daily newspapers published outside of American territory.

Islands Strangely Different

"Mallorca, the big sister, is a radiantly beautiful daughter of Spain," writes Roy W. Baker in a communication to the Washington, D. C., headquarters of the National Geographic Society. "Menorca, slight and delicate, sits at her side, a country maiden beyond all doubt, yet with a grace that suggests a certain knowledge of the world. Menorca's features and people suggest the North—a strange mixture of English and a little Dutch and Spanish. Well-groomed and up-to-date, she looks at observers with a pleasant, reserved smile, and it is evident she is a person of poise and self-respect.

"On the big sister's other hand, Ibiza, a charming peasant in bright apron, skirt and shawl, hung with barbaric jewelry, piques the interest of genealogists, for in her a different strain, Arabic, seems to predominate.

"One of the outstanding features of the Balearic group is the abundance and excellence of its harbors. Mahón, the principal city of Menorca, is an example. One's ship picks its way down a long water lane, through pink and gray shores capped with rolling green, into what the Spanish Government plans to make one of the finest harbors in the Mediterranean.

"Coming to Menorca one sails past the ruins of San Felipe Castle, the scene of many hard-fought battles in Menorca's stormy history, past the Island of the Rats, and ahead, on the highest and greenest crest, one glimpses San Antonio, the seat of the noble Vigo family.

Mahón Bursts Suddenly on the View

"And then, Mahón! That is the way it comes. Suddenly, as the vessel rounds a point, it bursts into view, a quick splash of pink and white on the hillside, tier after tier of quaint streets. Mahón sparkles, as does the whole island. It is a mass of spotless up-and-down-hill streets of shining dolls' houses.

"From the steamer's deck the town, terrace upon terrace of white houses, with the spires of the inevitable churches dominating the mass, appears pure Spanish; but that is just Mahón's little joke on the visitor, for many of the houses show English features, reminders of Lord Nelson's conquest of the islands in 1798.

"The impress of the English occupations is still strong. An indefinable something, suggestive of the English provincial town, is reflected from the green doors, their shining brass fixtures and square-paned windows with white woodwork, which, also contrary to the rule in Spain, for the most part remain unshuttered during the daytime.

"This mixture of the English and Spanish gives Mahón a character of its own, which is shared by its people. It is the women who refuse to conform. In con-

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current, it pushes the craft along, preventing the crowfoot bars from anchoring the boat.

Real Pearls Are "Extra Dividends"

Mussels are valued at river-bank prices, which range from $20 to $130 per ton. But often there are "extra dividends," in the form of real pearls, which are found in mussels of inland waters as well as in the oyster shells of the ocean. One Illinois digger sold a pearl to a Mount Carmel jeweler for $500. The jeweler took it to New York, where it brought $2,000. Then it returned to Illinois by way of Paris, and its price in the necklace of a Chicago bride was $25,000.

Although mussels are edible they are not highly valued as a food. The American Indians, however, apparently were fond of them, because great piles of unchipped mussel shells can be found around their encampments.

Before buttons can be cut, the shells must be soaked in huge vats of water for several days. Then special tongs hold them while a cylindrical blue-steel saw cuts out the button "blanks." These are sold to finishing plants, where the disks are turned and polished and holes are bored in them.

Note: For supplementary reading and illustrations of the districts in which mussel shells are found, see: "Illinois, Crossroads of the Continent," *National Geographic Magazine*, May, 1931; "Trailing History Down the Big Muddy," July, 1928; "Seeing America with Lindbergh," January, 1928; "Great Mississippi Flood of 1927," September, 1927; "Missouri, Mother of the West," April, 1923; and "When the Father of Waters Goes on a Rampage," April, 1920.

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THIS MACHINE BITES BUTTON BLANKS FROM MUSSEL SHELLS

While a jet of water plays on the shell, a round, blue-steel saw quickly cuts out a "pearl" button disk. The shells are first soaked in huge vats of water for several days to keep them from cracking and splitting while in the machine. From this Illinois plant the disks are sent to button factories in many parts of the country, where they are polished and the thread holes are bored in them.

tinental Spain and in the other islands they take their places in the fields with the men and the beasts of burden. Not so with upstanding Miss Menorca! She believes that 'woman's place is in the home' or possibly, as a concession to the march of the times, in the factory, but not in the field, and there she refuses to go.

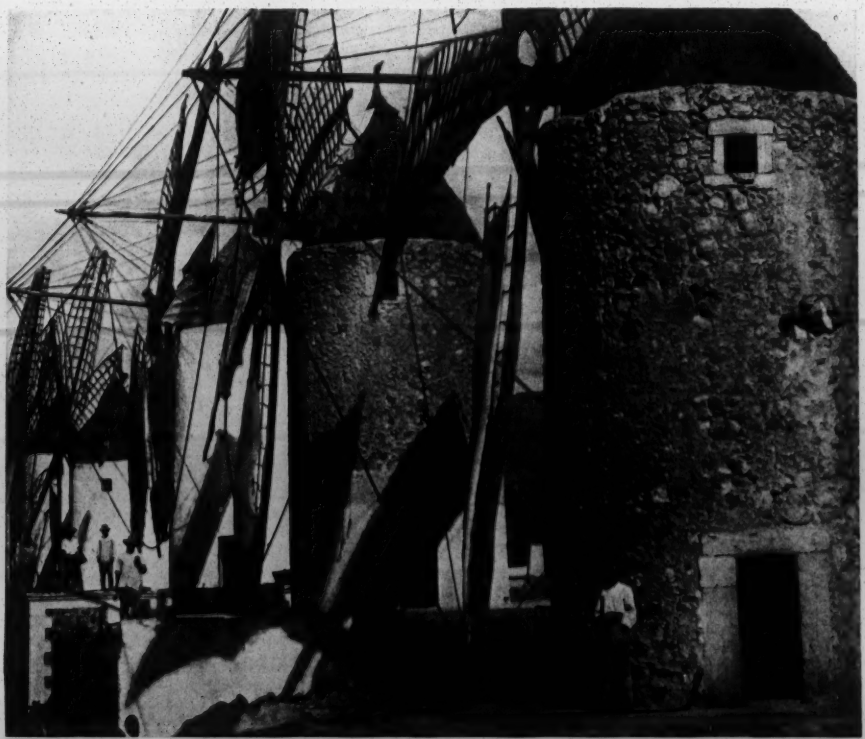
"The Balearics are rich in relics, from the days of the prehistoric inhabitants of the Mediterranean countries on down to modern times. Castles, churches, palaces, forts, and watchtowers are seen so frequently that they become almost matters of course.

"Palma, Mallorca, the principal city of the Balearics, is snugly situated at the central point of a magnificent horseshoe bay. Like all the other waters of these remarkable islands, the Bay of Palma could supply half the colors of an artist's palette. Palma itself is a grown-up country village of 81,000 people and of considerable commercial importance. Some years ago it awakened to the realization that it had natural endowments in the form of great scenic beauty, perfect climate, and historic interest that assured it a place in the sun if properly exploited.

"This is said in no spirit of disparagement; the island was born to be opulent, as hundreds of thousands will testify. Handsome hotels have sprung up; public service is furnished; roads are being improved; automobile registrations are well up in the thousands; there are cinemas, theaters, and concerts, and Palma is even talking of a casino like that at Monte Carlo."

Note: See also "The Balearics, Island Sisters of the Mediterranean," *National Geographic Magazine*, August, 1928, and "Keeping House in Majorca (Mallorca)," April, 1924.

Bulletin No. 5, January 9, 1933.



© *Photograph by Dr. Franz Stoedtner*

MALLORCA, LIKE HOLLAND, PUTS THE WIND TO WORK

This would be a happy hunting ground for Don Quixote, the Cervantes hero who fancied that windmills were enemies. Many American windmills are now being installed in the islands, but they cannot compare in picturesqueness with these.